

20 AUG 1971

Honorable Joel T. Broyhill
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. Broyhill:

This is in response to your inquiry on behalf of [] and confirms our discussion with Miss Hector of your staff.

On June 30, 1969, [] entered on duty with this Agency and as a part of her employment processing was advised of her eligibility to participate in the Federal Employees' Health Benefits Program. Consequently, she completed Standard Form 2809 on July 6, 1969, electing to enroll in the Government-wide Service Benefit Plan (Blue Cross-Blue Shield), High Option, Self-Only coverage, Enrollment Code 101. Some time later, [] requested that her enrollment be changed to Self-and-Family coverage; however, she was advised that Federal Employees Health Benefits Regulations did not permit such a change to be made at that time because more than 60 days had elapsed since her date of marriage.

Subsequently, an open season for health benefits enrollments, fully publicized throughout the Agency, was held November 10 through 28, 1969, during which time Federal employees were permitted to enroll, change their enrollments from one plan or option to another, and to change from Self-Only to Self-and-Family coverage. No request for change in enrollment was received from [] during that open season. There has not been an open season since then.

Federal regulations permit an employee to change from Self-Only to Self-and-Family coverage within 60 days of the birth of a child. [] was advised of this and on August 12, 1971 completed Standard Form 2809 to make this change. The effective date of this change will be 22 August 1971, the first day of the first pay period following receipt of the request. Unfortunately, [] Plan contains the provision

STAT that "Basic Benefits and Maternity Benefits will not be provided for hospital services and in-patient medical care rendered to a subscriber who, on the date his enrollment first became effective, is confined in a hospital as long as he is continuously confined therein."

[] son will, however, be eligible for supplemental benefits beginning 22 August 1971. Such benefits provide for 80 per cent of the covered expenses once a \$100 deductible has been met.

We appreciate your interest on behalf of [] and her family and wish to assure you that we are extending all possible assistance.

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Sincerely,

SIGNED

John M. Maury
Legislative Counsel

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